

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
FINANCE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:7242

ANSWERED ON:12.05.2000

WHOLESALE PRICE INDEX

ARUN KUMAR;ASHOK KUMAR PATEL;NAWAL KISHORE RAI;RAMPAL SINGH

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) Whether the Government have launched a new system to work out the wholesale price index for calculating the rate of inflation in the country;
- (b) If so, the total number of items covered thereunder to calculate the wholesale index price along with their names;
- (c) Whether certain new items have been added in the new system which did not exist in the old system; and
- (d) If so, the names thereof along with the items which have been excluded from the old system?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALA SAHEB VIKHE PATIL)

(a) Yes Sir. A new Wholesale Price Index (WPI) series with base 1993-94 =100 has been launched from April 1,2000.

(b) The revised commodity basket in the new WPI series includes 435 items. The number of items covered in the under the three major commodity groups and some of the sub groups in the new series are as follows:

Commodity Groups	Items covered
I. Primary Articles Group	98
Food Articles	54
Non Food Articles	25
Minerals	19
II. Fuel Group	19
Coal Mining	4
Mineral Oils	10
Electricity	5
III. Manufactured Products Group	318
Food Products	41
Textiles	29
Chemical & Chem. Products	69
Non Metallic Mineral Prod.	9
Basic Metals,Alloys & Metal Prod.	53

(c) & (d) To reflect the structural changes that have taken place in the economy since 1981-82, 136 new commodities have been added in the new WPI series. 150 items of the earlier series have been dropped due to their having become insignificant in terms of their relative value of production in the economy. Items added/deleted in the new WPI series are listed below.

Commodity Groups	No. of Items added	No. of Items deleted
I. Primary Articles Group	13	9
Food Articles	9	Nil
Non Food Articles	Nil	3
Minerals	4	6
II. Fuel Group	1	2
Coal Mining	Nil	Nil
Mineral Oils	Nil	Nil
Electricity	1	2
III. Manufactured Products	122	139
Food Products	9	13
Textiles	17	15
Chemical & Chem. Products	23	31
Non Metallic Mineral Prod.	Nil	3
Basic Metals,Alloys	22	26

& Metal Prod		
Other Sub-Groups	51	51
Total	136	150

The names of some of the items added /deleted in the new WPI series are as follows:

Items Added

- 1.Primary Group Brinjal ,Cabbage, bhindi, Phosporite, Felspar ceramic etc.
- 2.Fuel Group Electricity (railway traction)
- 3.Manufactured Group Cakes& sweet rolls, bagasse, unrefined oil, processed tea, aerated water , synthetic yarn, mixed fabrics, phenol, roll films etc. Items Deleted
1. Primary Group Raw hemp, lac, mica, petroleum crude etc.
2. Fuel Group Electricity (special), Electricity(other uses)
3. Manufactured Group Tin milk powder, canned juices, kardi oil, instant coffee, powerloom cloth, tooth brush, crockery, stainless steel, road rollers, refrigerators(domestic), table fans etc.